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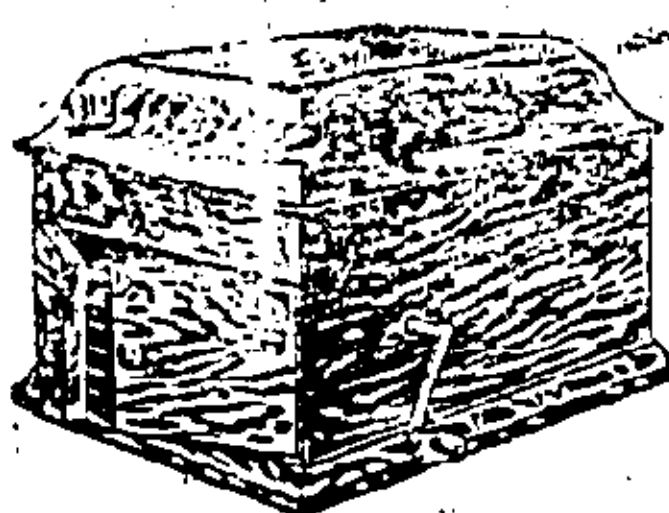
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Established 1877

current, the Government appears to hold a more commanding position in the House and in the country than they have done for a long time. The fact is that the Opposition has simply played into the Government's hands, by accepting and then enlarging upon statements which were obviously false and malicious. Can any person—even a military officer of the cavalry and Tory brand—seriously convince himself that any Liberal Government would directly or indirectly endeavour to subjugate any part of the United Kingdom, because of a difference in political views. The idea is preposterous, and only the most bigoted and thoughtless of politicians would ever bring such a charge against opponents. The Government are acting prudently in preparing against emergencies, and the Ulsterites or any other faction got out of hand, before or after the passing of the Home Rule measure, and to such an extent as may necessitate the civil authority calling upon the military, such action will be merely in accordance with precedent. Not only so, but it is the only thing to be done, and so far as the military are concerned, it is legitimate to call upon their services.

Home Rule for Ireland has to be initiated by the present Government, whether Ulster or certain cavalry officers approve or disapprove. Ulster has been given every possible consideration, and it is unthinkable that what is clearly the wish of the vast majority of the Irish nation, the Scottish nation and the Welsh nation and a very large proportion of the English nation, should be set aside because of the opposition of an Irish province, aided by certain British politicians more interested in the swing of the political pendulum, in their direction and the downfall of their political opponents than in the welfare of Ireland. Nothing has shown more clearly the puerility of the present Opposition and their deplorable lack of ability in comparison with the present Administration than their handling of the present crisis. Like drowning men, they cling to any sort of thing to buoy them up, but the strong, stern and fearless spirit of the Liberalism of to-day, broad-based, as it is, upon the soundest conception of an enlightened Democracy, looks on their pettinesses with an indulgent smile.

Since writing the above it is definitely announced that General French has resigned. No particulars are given, so far, and therefore comment meantime would be premature.

LATEST LONDON STOCK PRICES.

Messrs. Vernon and Smyth received the following quotations by cable from London this morning.

All are middle price, with the exception of Banks, which are quoted "sellings".

Middle Prices.	Market.
Tonoh Mines	33 1/2
British Petroleum	49 1/2
United Steel	281
United Steel	10 3/4
Mexican Eagle	49 1/2
Rubber Plant. Inv. Trust	13 1/2
Eastern Inv. Trust	13 1/2
Shell (to 1000)	10 1/2
Indo-China (Combined)	14 1/2
Chinese Engineering	37 1/2
H.K. Elec. Transm.	8 1/2
Venture Trust, Ltd.	1 1/2
Pine Hard Pine	3 1/2
Plantation	3 1/2
Trust of the Rubber Share	3 1/2
Market	firm
Tone of the Tin Share	firm
Market	firm

The public health law, restricting the sale of habit-forming drugs, is very loosely worded, and even where its provisions should apply effectually they are not observed, says the New York "Times". School girls have been found distributing among their mates papers of their dangerous drug, heroin, which they call "happy dust". Physical and mental breakdown follows inevitably the acquisition of this habit.

If a European Power were to declare war against England in all probability the first move of the enemy would be to destroy the works in which ammunition for military purposes was being manufactured. There are only five of these works in the United Kingdom, and it would not be very difficult to level their chimneys, stacks to the ground by dropping explosives on them from aeroplanes, and it would take about three months to rebuild them. When the South African war broke out it was found that the ammunition in reserve was only sufficient to last a few weeks.

RUB IT IN

A GOOD many people think that the only way to cure a skin disease is by using a strong medicine. But this is a mistake. The best way to cure a skin disease is by using a good medicine, and then rubbing it in.

NEWS OF THE DAY. LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A Chinese, living at On-Lo Road, reports to the police that some person stole from him a gold watch and chain valued at \$200.

The Hon. Mr. J. A. S. Bucknill K.C. Attorney-General, leaves tomorrow for the F.M.S., where he will take the temporary appointment of Chief Justice.

A lady residing on the Peak, while walking along Queen's Road Central yesterday, had her hand bag snatched by a Chinese. It contained two wallets, a pair of gold pincettes and some money.

"I only got \$30, but I signed for \$30" the Police Judge was informed by a Chinese used by an Indian moneylender in court this morning. The plaintiff's solicitor said there was interest due, and his Lordship decided to hear the case in Chambers.

A suggestion made to the British committee in charge of the Peace Centenary celebration is not likely to be ardently echoed on this side, says the "Pittsburgh Dispatch." This was the expressed hope of the Archbishop of Canterbury that as a result there might be a revision of American school history books in their treatment of the United States from England. He thought the American text-books devoted a disproportionate amount of space to the Revolutionary War. British school histories do not deal as minutely with the Revolutionary War as our own, but it was not a war that British historians care to go into much detail about. But to Americans the story of the struggle for freedom must ever be epic.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough put up for auction yesterday several important lots of property at Sankwan under the will of the late Mr. A. D. Sankwan. There were four leasehold lots, all of which were disposed of to Chinese buyers. The details are as follows: Sankwan Lot No. 137, area 4,000 square feet, Crown rent \$9.75 p.a. annum; Lot No. 118, area 2,500 square feet, Crown rent \$2.75 per annum; Lot No. 108, area 3,000 square feet, Crown rent \$3.32 per annum; started at \$1,000 a bid, disposed of at \$1,450. Lots Nos. 105 and 107, area 18,000 square feet, Crown rent \$30.04 per annum; bidding opened at \$2,000 and in the end of \$3,000 reached \$8,000, when \$100 bids were taken. The property changed hands at \$8,500. Messrs. Duncan, Luker, Doucet and Harlow were the solicitors for the vendors.

MESSRS. SHEWAN, TOMES & CO. AFFAIRS.

Appeal to Privy Council.

Before the Chief Justice (Sir William Reeves Davies), Mr. Justice Gompertz and Mr. Justice Hazland, sitting as the Full Court, this afternoon, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, on behalf of Mr. C. A. Tomes, appellant in the recent Full Court appeal, C. A. Tomes versus Robert Shewan, applied for leave to appeal to the Privy Council against a judgment in favour of the respondent on a motion for a direction that the partnership of the firm of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes and Company be wound up, and the business of the firm be sold as a going concern.

Mr. Alabaster said the application was made under Rule 3 of the Privy Council Rules of 1900 (local). Under Rule 3 the application might be by motion or petition, but he understood that it had been the invariable practice here that the application should be both by motion and petition; that practice had been followed in this case. He read an affidavit by Mr. C. A. Tomes, which stated among other things that the matter at issue was the goodwill of the business hitherto carried on by Mr. Shewan and himself, and that he believed the value of such goodwill to amount to more than the statutory amount required to enable the appeal to be made—\$5,000; and that he believed that it would be readily saleable to a stranger for upwards of \$100,000. That, Mr. Alabaster continued, gave the appeal as a right provided certain conditions were complied with, and those they were willing to carry out. He therefore applied as a right for statutory leave to appeal to His Majesty in Council.

Mr. E. H. Sharpe, K.C., representing the respondents, in answer to the Chief Justice said he had nothing to say against the application.

Conditional leave to appeal was granted.

NEW KINGS AND OLD.

A new King came into being recently, and nobody seems to have paid much attention to it. But it is a remarkable event. The King of Albania may quite possibly be created on this earth, for history tells us that crowned monarchs are always in the footsteps of the dispossessed. Where are the many Kings of Asia, of Africa, and of the Isles? "Od hands wisely" are the words of the old proverb, and it is a remarkable fact that within recent times Europe should have made one new King of Albania, and one of Albania, while Asia during the same period has had no less than two new Kings and one Queen. The monarchs of the East are not so numerous as those of the West, but they are not so numerous as those of the West.

LOTTERY TICKETS AND OPIUM CHARGES.

Before Mr. Hazland at the Magistrate's Court today, Min Kai Nam alias Yik Min Tsan, admitted to bail in \$5,000, was charged on remand with having in his possession 3,000 San Piu lottery tickets at Connaught Road West, and, secondly, with being in possession of four tickets of Government prepared opium above the amount of five taels allowed by the Ordinance.

Mr. C. F. Mason, of Messrs. D'Almeida and Mason, defended.

The Magistrate being unable to sit at the appointed hour, the case was remanded until Friday at 2.15 p.m.

Mr. Mason asked for a reduction of the bail. There was no doubt that his client would appear. He was head of an influential firm with an annual turnover of between 3 and 4 lakhs. He was not the man to run away.

Inspector M. O'Sullivan did not consent and bail was fixed as previously.

FIELD MARSHAL FRENCH. A Distinguished Soldier.

Field Marshal Sir John Denton Pinkstone French, K.C.M.G., K.C.B., G.C.V.O., whose resignation is announced to-day, has had a very distinguished military career though he was originally intended for the Navy. Born at Ripple Vale, Ripple, Kent, on Sept. 28, 1852, he was the only son of Capt. French, R.N., and Margaret, daughter of William Eccles, Joining H.M.S. Britannia in 1866 he served as a midshipman for four years, and entered the Army in 1864, when he joined the 8th Hussars. In 1874 he transferred to the 10th Hussars with which regiment he served his first active service, in the Sudan Campaign of 1884-1885, fighting in three actions. From 1889 to 1893 he commanded his regiment, receiving the post of becoming Assistant Adjutant General on the Staff in the latter year. In 1895 he was appointed Assistant Adjutant General at Headquarters and served there till 1897, in which year he was gazetted as Brigadier in command of the 2nd Cavalry Brigade. From this post he was transferred as temporary Major-General to the 1st Cavalry Brigade at Aldershot in 1899, and later in the same year was sent to South Africa, where he fought through the Boer war with great distinction. His first command in Africa was that of the 2nd Cavalry Division in Natal, and promotions rapidly followed. He was promoted to Major-General in 1901, and to Lieutenant-General in 1902. He was then appointed to command the 1st Cavalry Division in the Cape Colony until the end of the war. At the end of the S. A. War in 1901 Sir John French commanded the 1st Army Corps, and on his being made Inspector-General of the Forces in 1907 he was gazetted General. Two years after he vacated this position—in 1913, he was advanced to the highest substantive rank in the service. In 1911 he was made an A.D.C. to H.M. King, and since that year has been Chief of the Imperial General Staff, First Military Member of the Army Council, and General Officer Commanding in Chief, First Class. Field-Marshal French is hon. D.C.L., Oxon. and LL.B. Camb.

THE VARIETY BOAT RACE.

The annual boat race rowed between Oxford and Cambridge Universities on the Thames from Putney to Mortlake, will be rowed to-morrow afternoon at half-past two (Hongkong time 10.30 p.m.). An appreciation of the Cambridge crew, who are favourites according to latest London advice, will be found on page 8 of this issue.

G.E.R.'S NEW MANAGER.

Popular and Capable.

One of the best-loved railway men in the United States, as well as one of the most capable, is the description given by one of his intimate associates of Mr. Henry W. Thornton, the new general manager of the Great Eastern Railway, says a New York message of February 12th. The traffic problems Mr. Thornton has been called on to solve have been among the most complex in the American railway world, for he has been obliged to handle over 1,000 scheduled trains daily over lines disturbed by improvement works on a large scale. Mr. Thornton has had a career of steady rapid promotion. During the last three years he has superintended the traffic over 400 miles of railway, over which nearly 500,000 passengers are transported daily, and 8,000 freight cars are hauled.

COMPANY REPORT. THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The General Managers submit a Statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1913.

Including \$3,335.88 brought forward from the previous year, and after deducting \$10,000 paid as an interim dividend of 2s per share on 18th August, 1913, the balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account is \$37,358.12 which it is recommended should be appropriated as follows:—

A Final Dividend of \$7.00 per share..... \$35,000.00
To carry forward..... 2,358.12
\$37,358.12

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers.

Hongkong, 23rd March, 1914.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

To Interest Less Dividends..... \$ 2,443.04

To General Managers' Commission..... 2,000.00

To Audit Fee..... 180.00

To Balance, profit for year as per Balance Sheet..... 35,000.00

Total..... \$43,613.88

By Ice Sales and Cold Storage Charges, less Working Expenses..... \$ 42,084.83

By Rents received less Crown Rent paid..... 1,563.85

By Transfer fees..... 16.00

Total..... \$43,613.88

BALANCE SHEET AT 31st DECEMBER, 1913.

CAPITAL, 5,000 Shares of \$5 each fully paid..... \$125,000.00

Provision for Contingencies as per last Account..... 1,106.11

Ammonia Reserve Account..... 1,106.11

Accounts Payable..... \$1,317.49

Unclaimed Dividends..... 4,195.00

Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd., Liabilities..... 80.00

Total..... \$7,512.49

Profits and Loss Account:—

Balance brought forward from last year..... \$ 8,353.88

Profit for year to date as per Statement..... 39,000.00

Total..... \$47,358.12

Less Interim Dividend of 2s per share paid 18th Aug. 1913..... 10,000.00

Total..... \$37,358.12

Land, Buildings, and Macinery—

per last account..... \$368,204.71

Less written off per last report..... 13,500.00

Plant and Machinery, additions during year..... 1,437.60

Launch and Lighters—

per last account..... \$ 8,000.00

Less written off per last report..... 1,500.00

Add of New Lighter..... 3,019.50

Total..... 7,519.50

Investments—

More than on Property in Hongkong..... \$ 21,000.00

Hongkong Club Debenture, at par..... 2,000.00

Shares in Public Companies, per last account..... 430.00

Accounts Receivable..... 41,430.00

Stocks of Ice, Coal and Ammonia as certified by the Manager..... 6,800.00

Unexpired Insurance Premiums, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corporation..... 14,139.92

Cash in hand..... 534.16

Total..... \$436,064.72

Hongkong, 13th March, 1914.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers.

REPORT THAT I HAVE EXAMINED THE ABOVE Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers and Securities of the Company and that in my opinion such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs at 31st December, 1913, according to the best of my information and the explanations given to me and as shown by the Books of the Company. I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required.

A. R. LOWN, C.A., Auditor.

Hongkong, 20th March, 1914.

THE HON. TREASURER OF THE ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Com. Z. Yip, \$10

B. D. Seton & Co., \$10

Berlin & Co., \$10

Canby & Co., \$10

Canby & Co., \$10

Dr. Charles Lee, \$10

J. J. Lee, \$10

D. A. Lankford, \$10

J. F. Miller, \$10

R. Morrison, \$10

Q. J. B. Sayre, \$10

Ullmann & Co., \$10

Total..... \$100

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THE BANDMANN OPERA COMPANY.

For their opening performance at the Theatre Royal the Bandmann Opera Company last night produced the musical comedy entitled "Oh! Oh! Delphine," the book and lyrics of which were written by C. M. S. McEllan and the music by Ivan Caryll.

This play, which is stated to have been very successful in England and America, where doubtless it was performed by really clever artists and an attractive chorus—no necessary in light and airy plays of the kind—is typical of the merry and bright productions associated with the name of the Gaiety Theatre of the dear old Strand. What it is all about has been already stated in these columns and therefore it will suffice to say that on the whole the Company produce it with as much liveliness as is possible in the circumstances. Interspersed throughout the narration of a highly ingenious "story" or "plot," there are several exceedingly pleasing numbers, which both principals and chorus sang very well—though not so well as one expects to hear from a professional Company. If there is little genuine comedy in "Oh! Oh! Delphine," there is, nevertheless, plenty of fun which is really nearly as much as one has a right to expect from a play with so odd a title. Like all Mr. Bandmann's productions, the play is well-staged and the dresses, especially of the leading ladies are not only decidedly à la mode, but very pretty, while, of course, they are most attractively displayed by the fair wearers.

One cannot help comparing the present Company with some of those previously brought East under the Bandmann management, and it is regretfully I have to say—for, like Dobson, I believe most conspicuous saviour of the "odorous"—that the present "re-organization," in my opinion, is not quite "up to the mark." Of course, it is not improbable that in the other plays of their large repertory, the Company may appear to better advantage. We have Mr. "Bobbie" Roberts back again, and as he is an intelligent comedian and one who makes as much as he can even out of scanty material, he will be heartily welcomed. Last night he had a droll part (Alphonse Bouche) and played it with his customary liveliness. Mr. Fred Coyne, useful as ever, has also a suitable part as Uncle Noel Johnson. Unfortunately, the Company's leading soprano, Miss Florence Ineson is at present indisposed and the part of "Delphine" was taken by Miss Belle Rivers, who acts better than she sings. The two other leading ladies last night were Miss Babs Kendal, who is a graceful dancer and pleasing singer, and Miss Ethel Beech, who can both sing and dance quite "nicely." Her "Furrying Persian" song with Mr. Hooper in the first Act was one of the finest things of the evening. Miss Addie Lennard, who took Miss Moyna Hill's place last year, had quite a small part last night, which was a pity, as she is a clever and versatile comedienne. The new leading male vocalist is Mr. Alec Worcester. He has a baritone voice, robust and pleasing, and he acts with much spirit. There was a fairly large audience last night, who appeared to enjoy the performance; and certainly in parts, like the current egg, it was quite good; but it must really be said that it was not quite good enough to add to Mr. Bandmann's reputation.

P. Q.

SHIPPING GAZETTE.

(From "Shipping and Engineering.")

Captain W. McIntosh of the Chilli is on leave.

Captain P. H. Lloyd of the Wenchow, has gone master, Chilli.

Mr. W. J. Fraser, from reserve, has gone acting master, Wenchow.

Mr. T. R. F. Nigle, from leave, has gone second engineer, Tungting.

Mr. A. C. Lowe, second engineer, Tungting, has gone chief engineer, Shai.

Mr. G. Woolley, chief engineer, Shai, has gone chief engineer, Kian.

Mr. A. A. Jamieson, chief engineer, Kian, is on leave.

Mr. A. M. Kemp, supernumerary, Hai-ping, has gone acting third engineer, Ningpo.

Mr. P. Agnew, chief engineer, Ningpo, has gone supernumerary, Lanchow.

Mr. D. Murray, second engineer, Ningpo, has gone chief engineer, same ship.

Mr. J. Walker, third engineer, Ningpo, has gone acting second engineer, same ship.

Captain C. Westwood of the Hanchow, has gone master, Ningpo.

Captain W. B. Wilks, of the Toones, has gone master, Hanchow.

Captain J. Wackie of the Kwangchi, has gone master, Toones.

Mr. W. Munro, chief officer Kwangchi, has gone master, Kwangchi.

Mr. J. Farrell, second officer, Kwangchi, has gone chief officer, Kwangchi.

Mr. C. Wilkins has been appointed second officer, Kwangchi.

Mr. D. Sharr, third engineer, Hanchow, is on leave.

Mr. McAlister has been appointed third engineer, Toones.

Mr. T. Wright, from leave, has gone chief engineer, Kien-an.

Mr. W. McKinnon, chief engineer, Kien-an, is on leave.

Mr. W. J. Brown, supernumerary, Hanchow, has gone third engineer, same ship.

Mr. C. O. Lawrence, third engineer, Kwangchi, is on leave.

